



Remote sensing of agriculture in North Africa

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December 4, 2013



What do we observe with remote sensing in cultivated areas?

- Operational status of satellites
- Objective assessment of fields
- Identify crop types and locations
- Estimate crop area
- Estimate productivity (yield)
- Estimate crop irrigation status
- Environmental assessment



What are the tools and datasets?

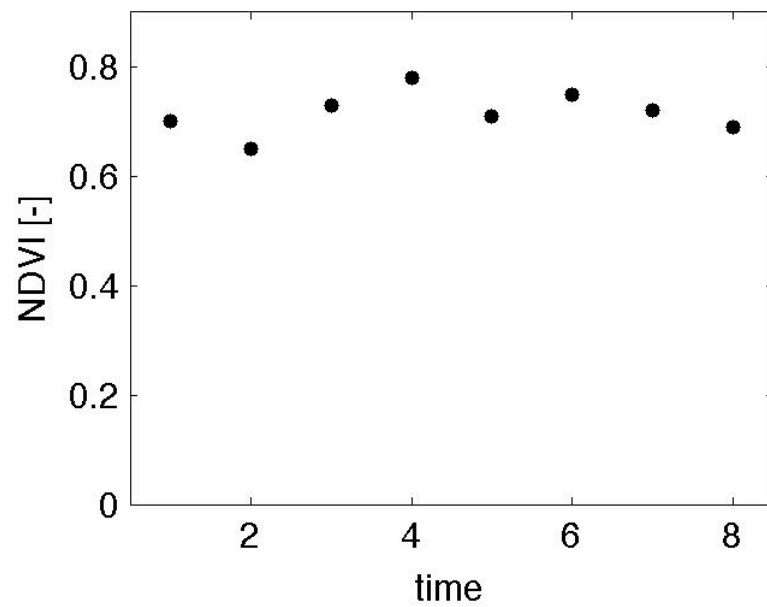
- Medium-spatial resolution datasets for operational monitoring (Landsat, SPOT)
- Tools include vegetation indices, classification, change detection
- Rely on multi-temporal dynamics of vegetation
- Extract crop-specific information



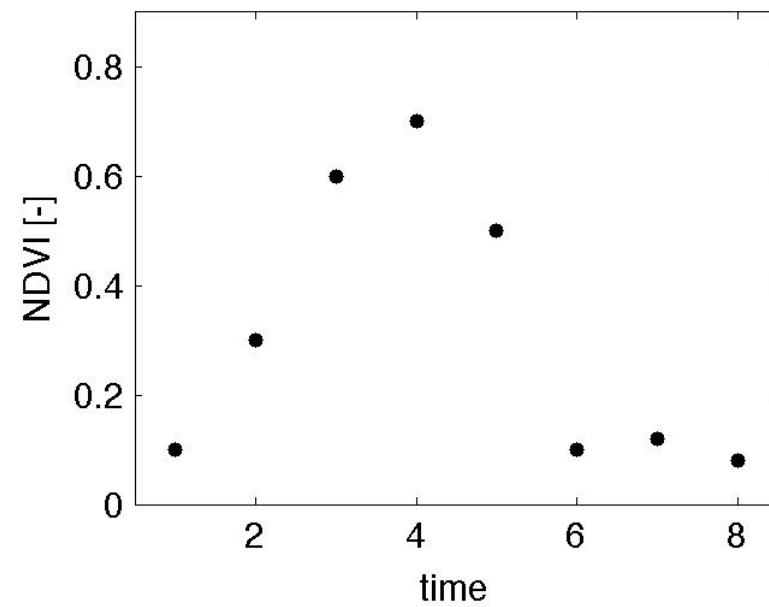
Hierarchical Approach

- Divide and conquer approach
- Take the landscape and use multitemporal statistics of vegetation indices to divide the landscape into major land cover types – inter-annual approach
- Once croplands are identified, use timing and amplitude of vegetation indices to identify irrigated areas – amplitude approach
- Once croplands are identified, use multitemporal vegetation indices along with agronomic information to identify crop types – intra-annual approach

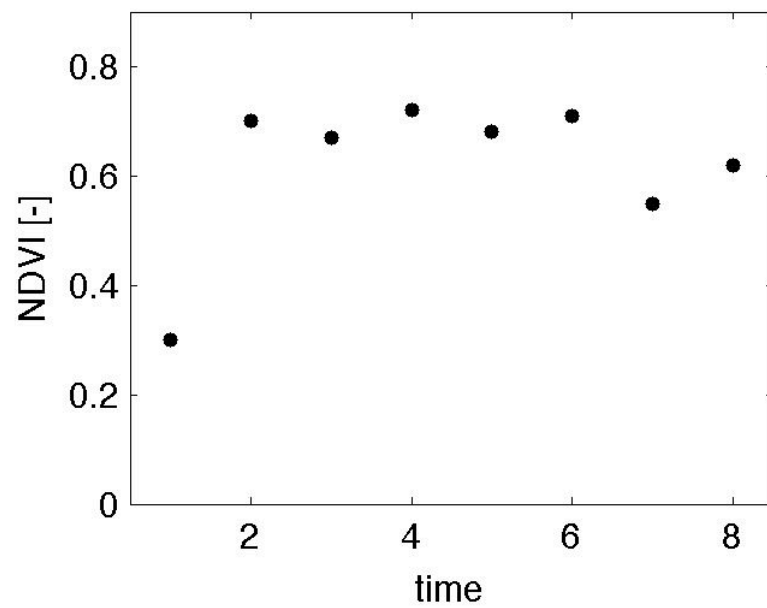
permanent vegetation



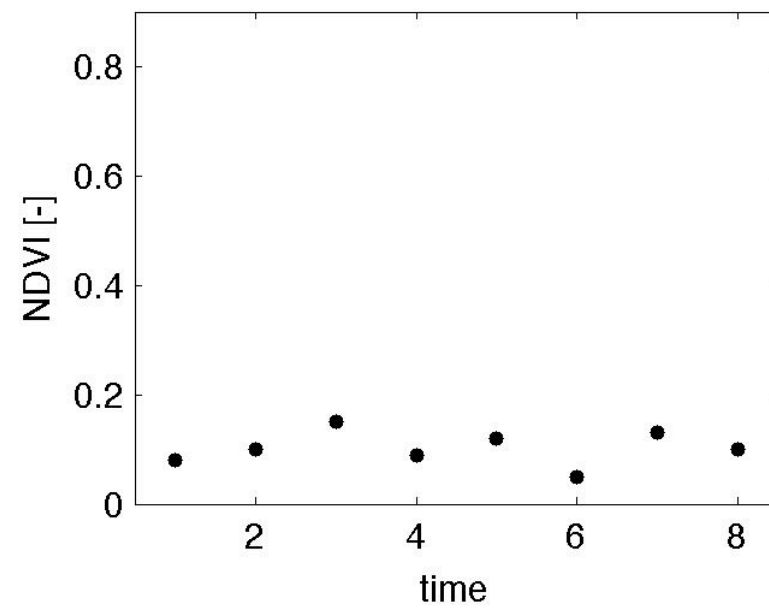
agriculture



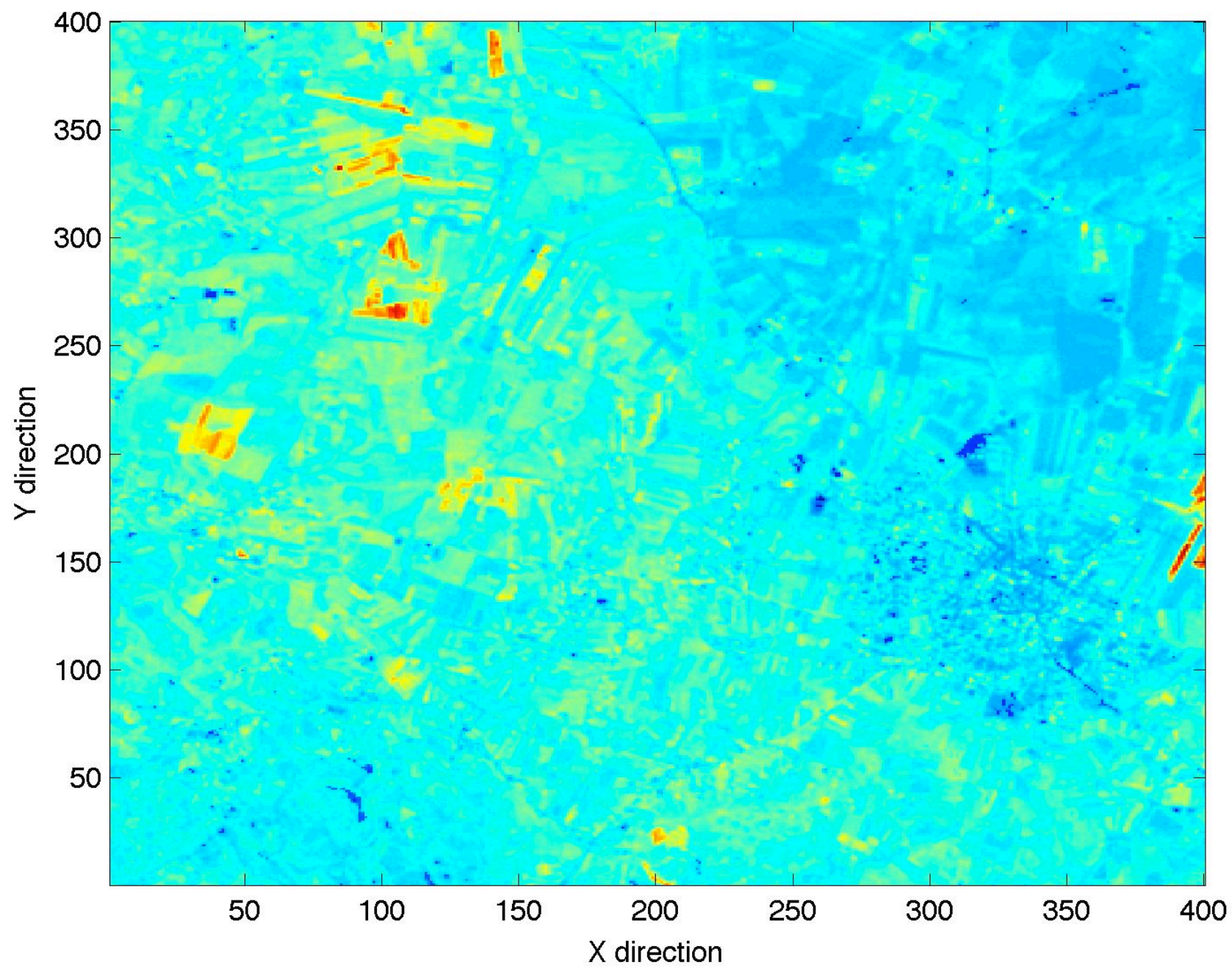
orchards



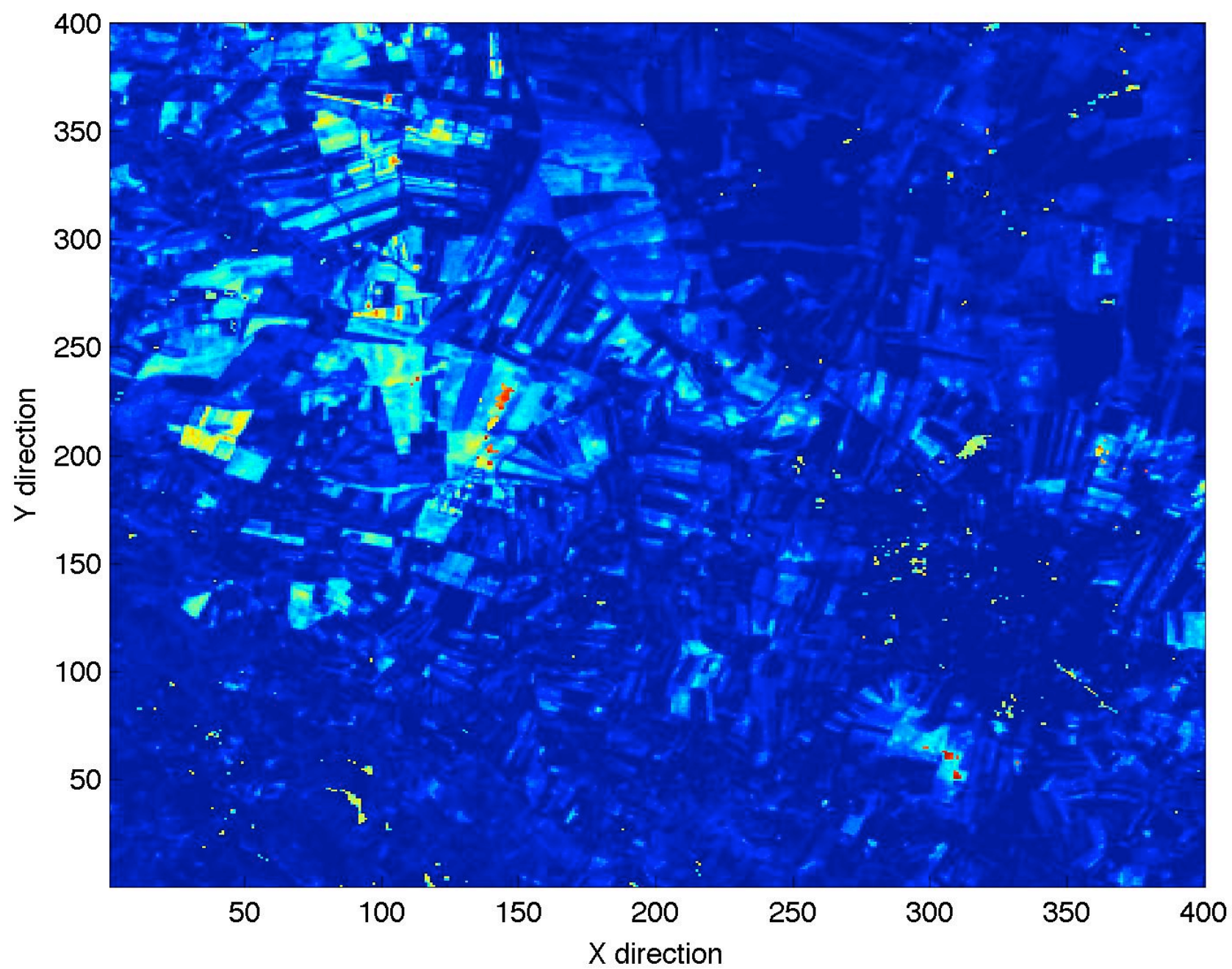
barren



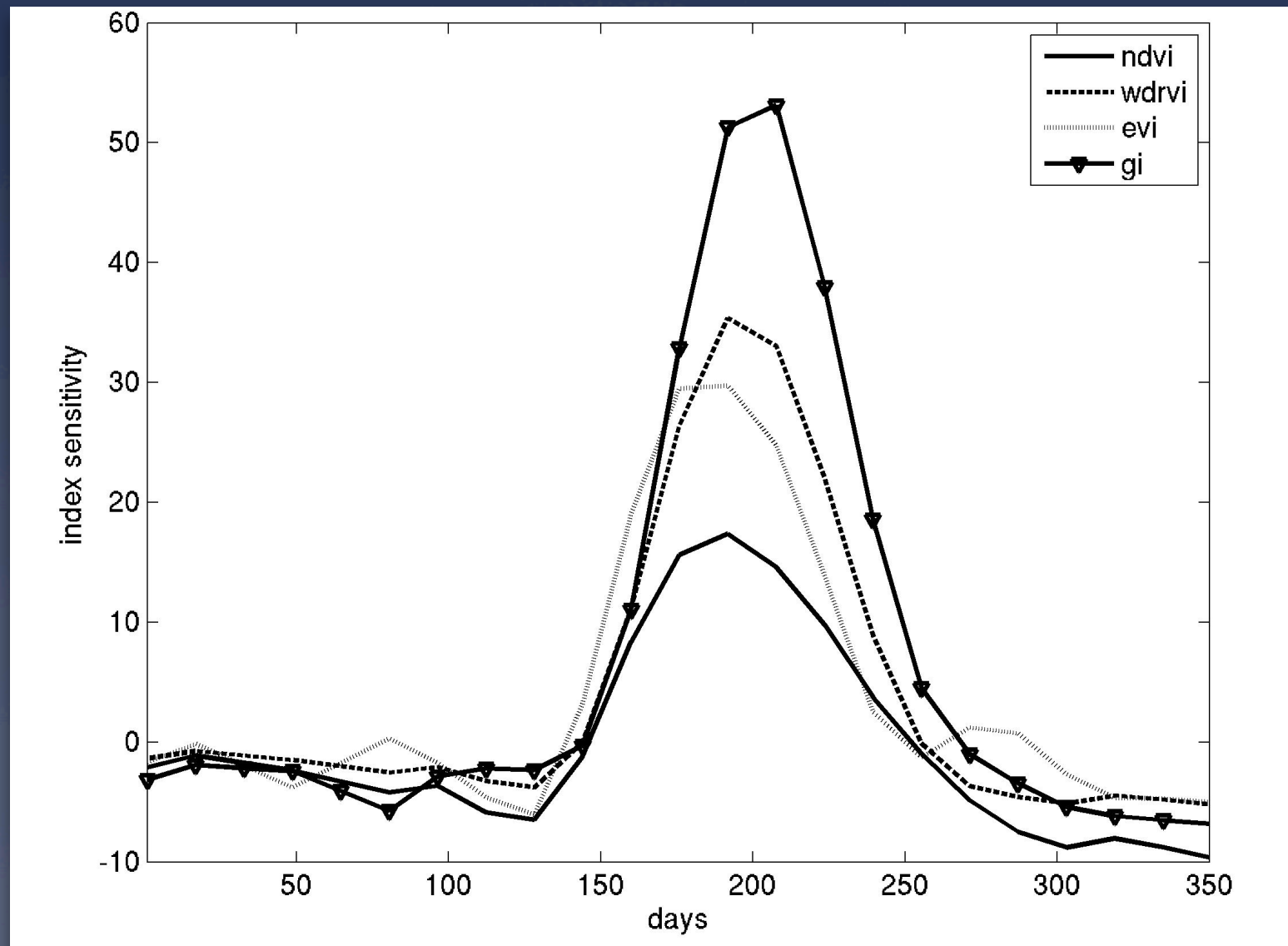
mean



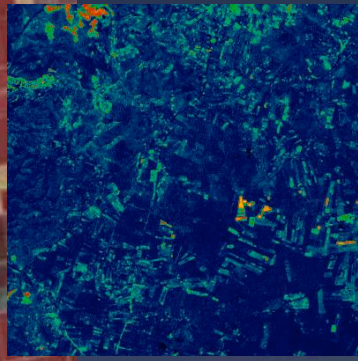
variance



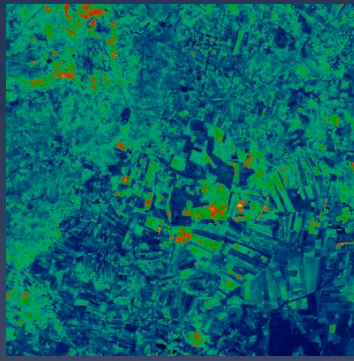
Irrigation sensing



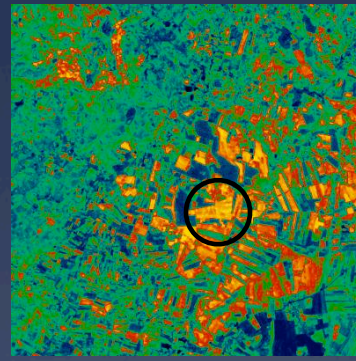
Winter crops (wheat)



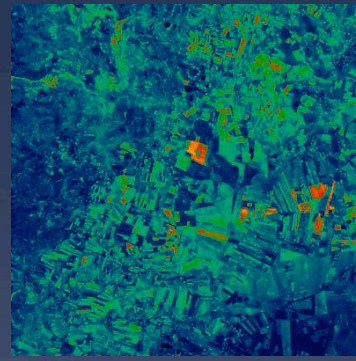
January 14, 2010



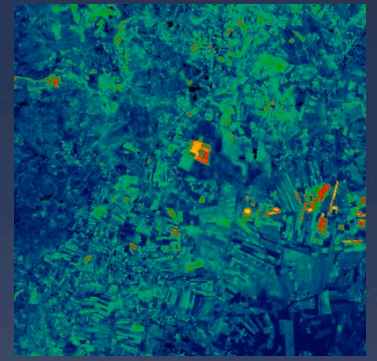
March 10, 2010



April 3, 2010



May 13, 2010

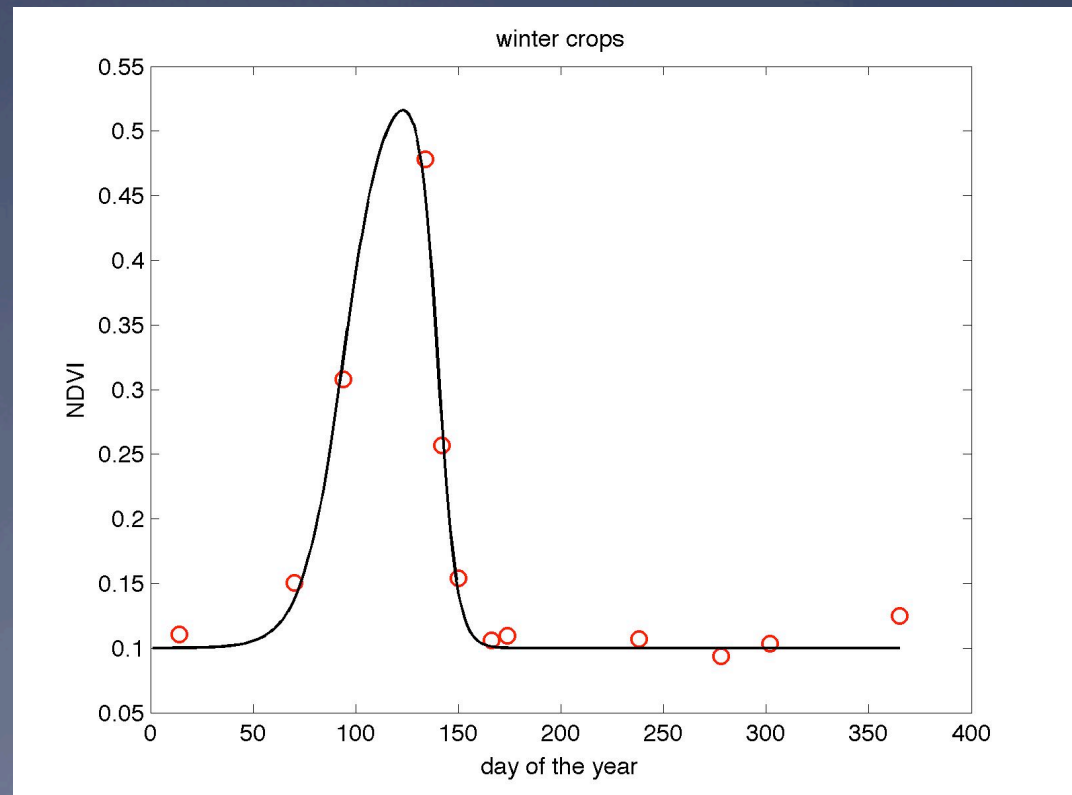


June 14, 2010

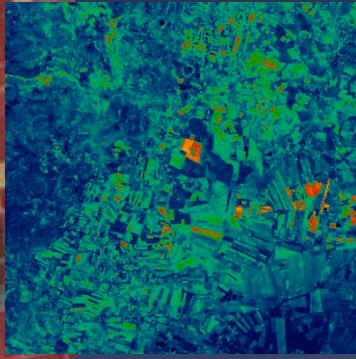


By assembling a time series of vegetation index data, we have the ability to map crop types and their irrigation status

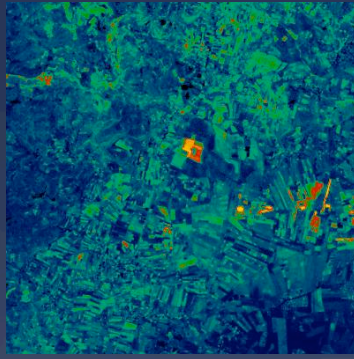
In this case, the winter crops (winter wheat) are visible by their early green-up time period



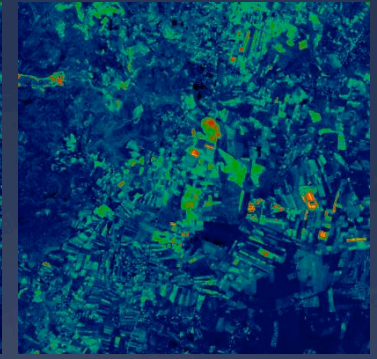
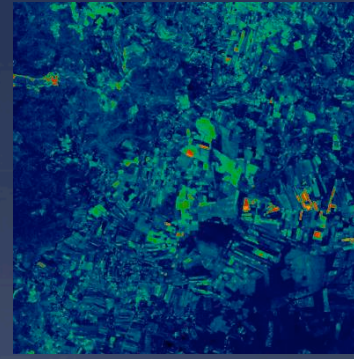
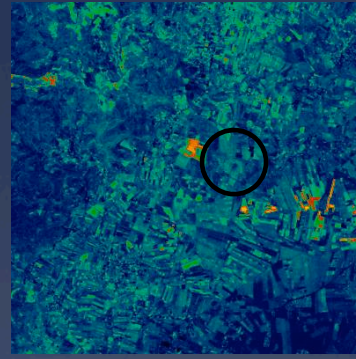
Summer crops (maize)



May 13, 2010

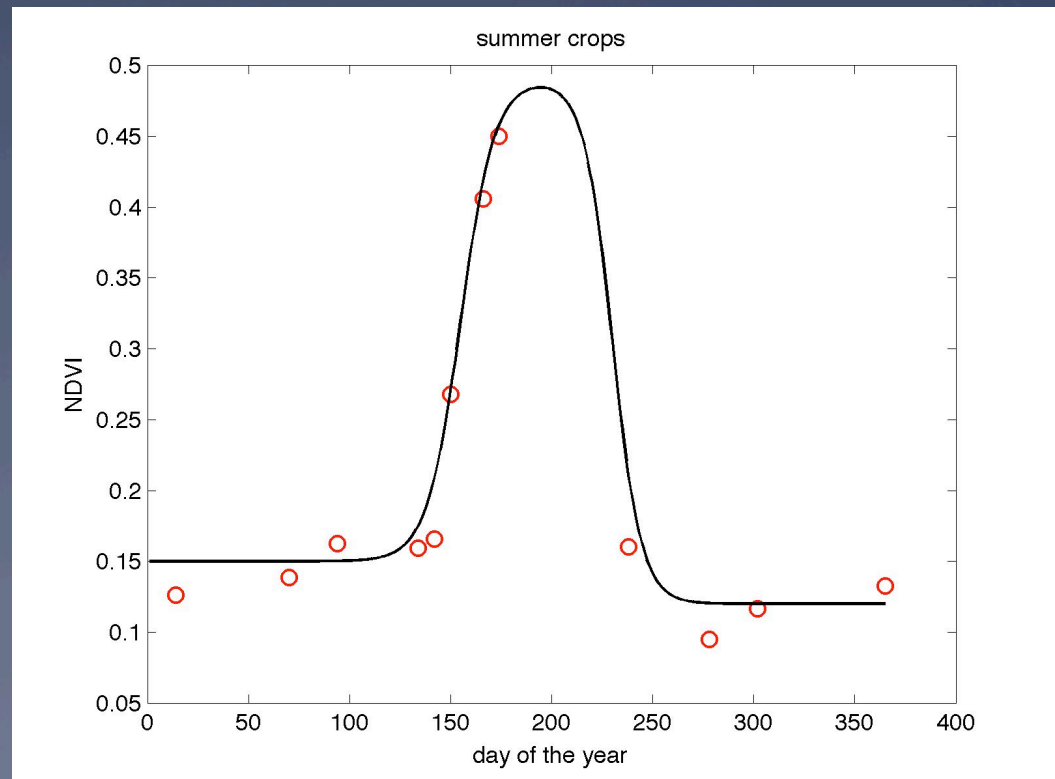


June 14, 2010

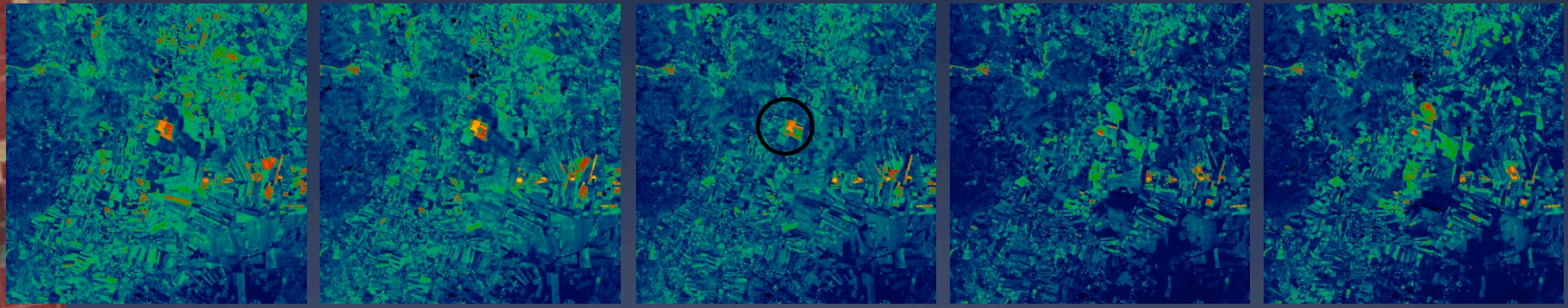


By assembling a time series of vegetation index data, we have the ability to map crop types and their irrigation status

In this case, the summer crops (maize?) are visible by their late green-up time period



Double cropping



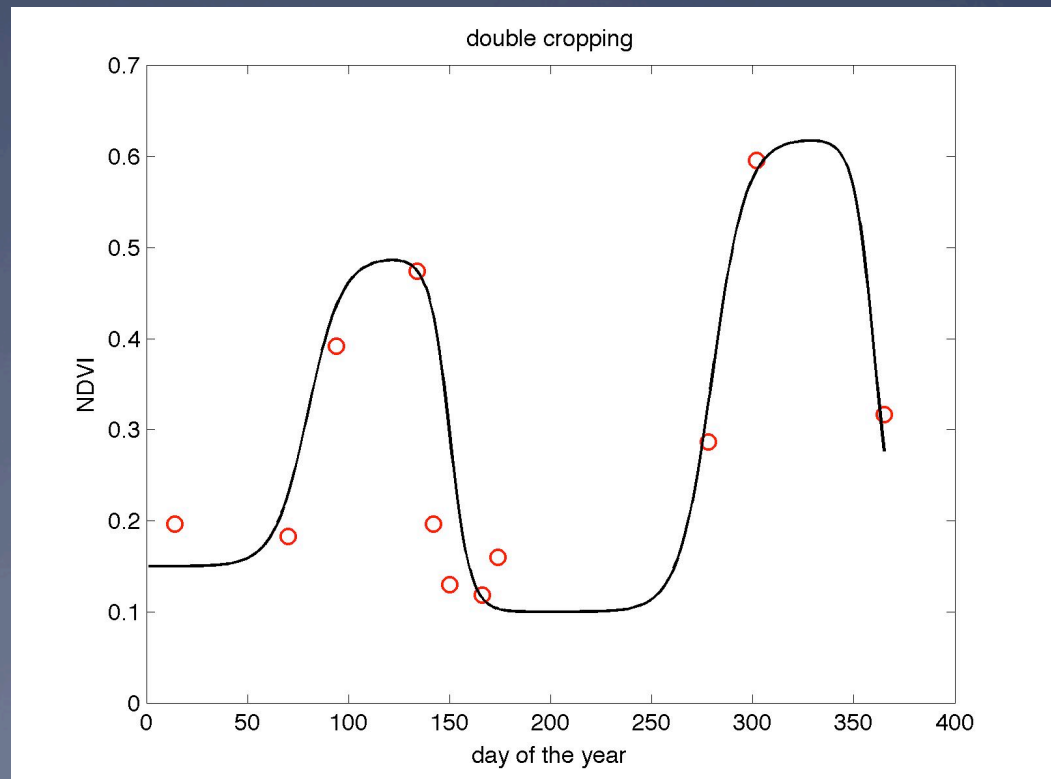
May 13, 2010

June 14, 2010

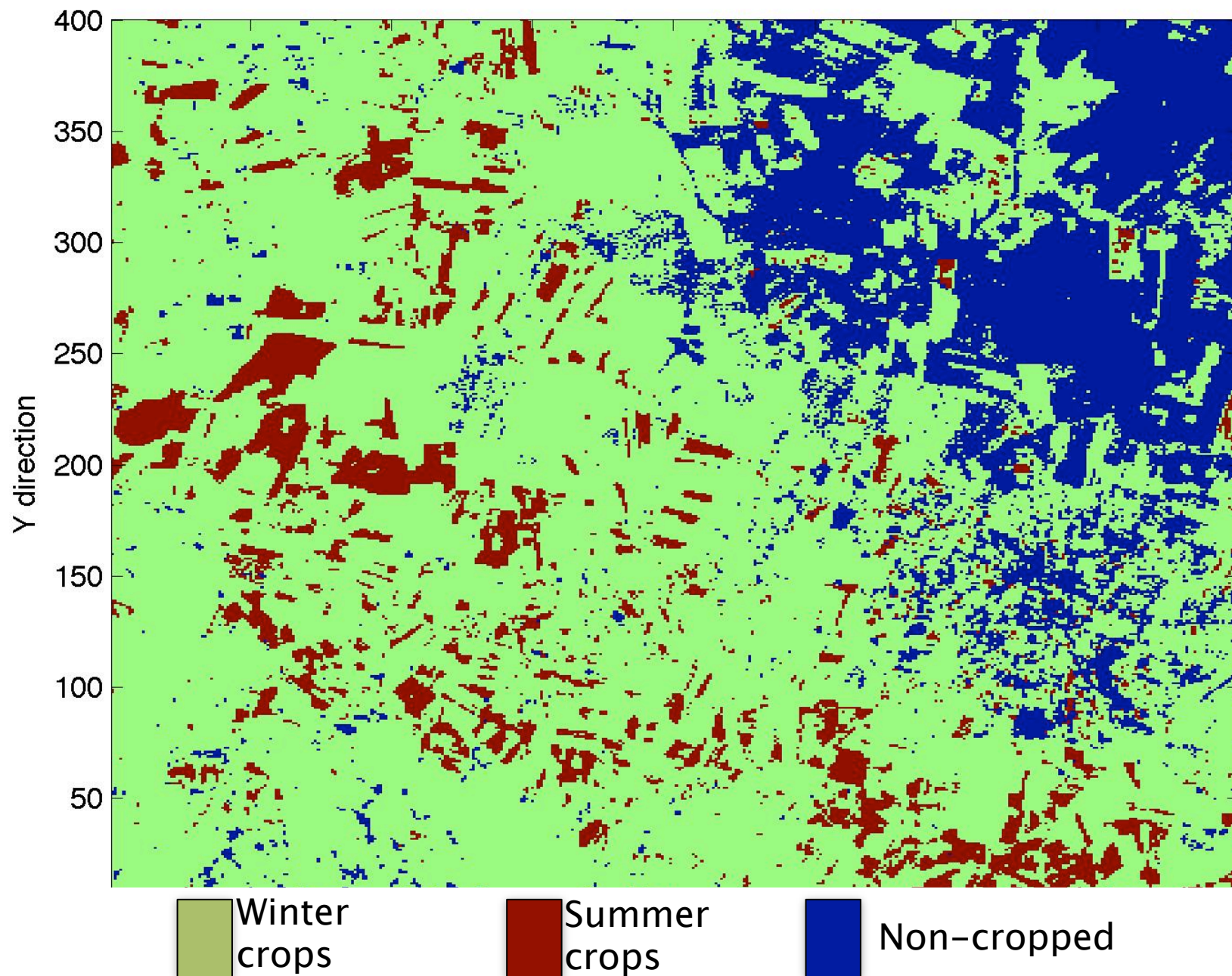


By assembling a time series of vegetation index data, we have the ability to map crop types and their irrigation status

In this case, the double cropping is visible by distinct two growing cycles

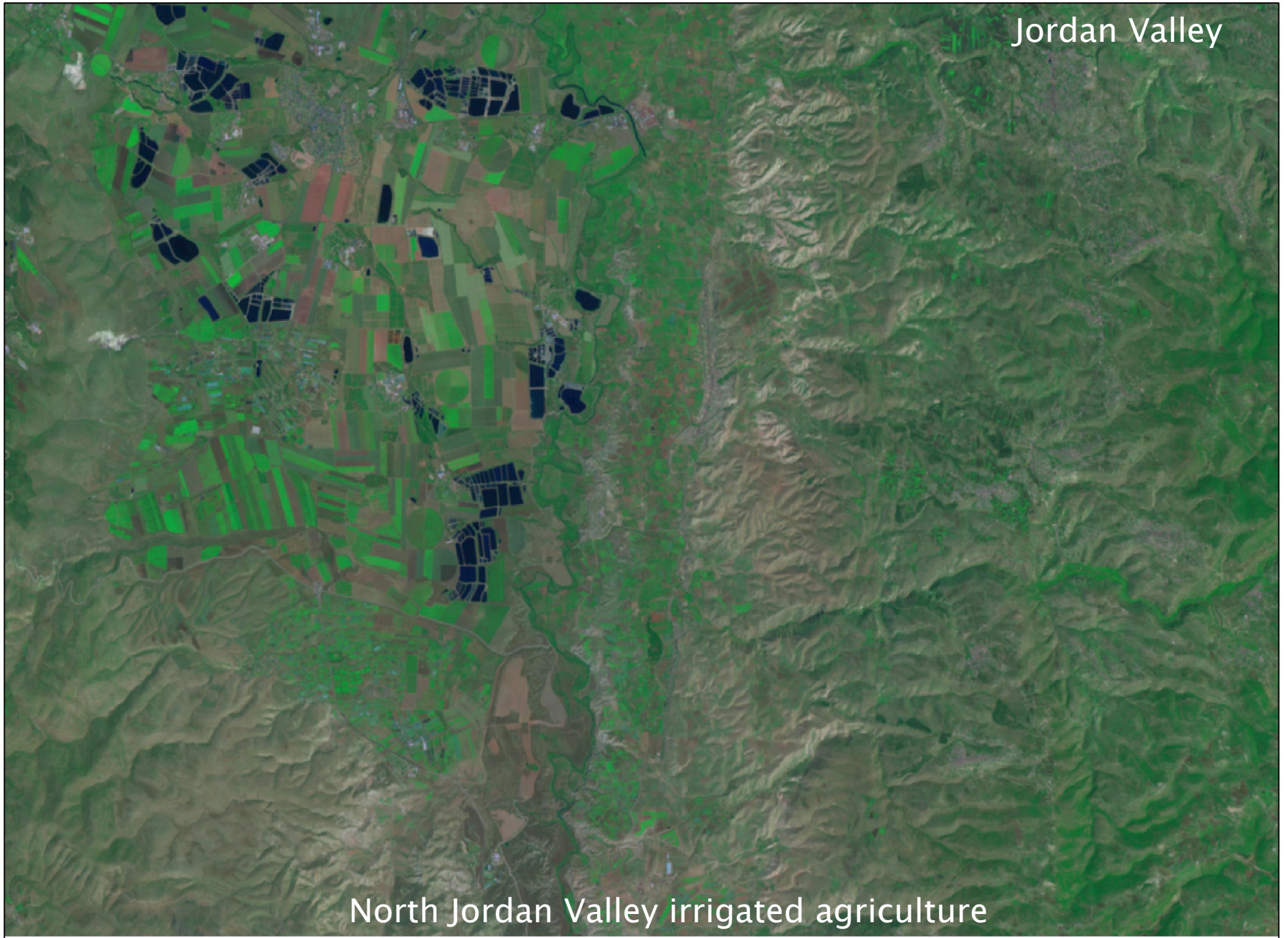


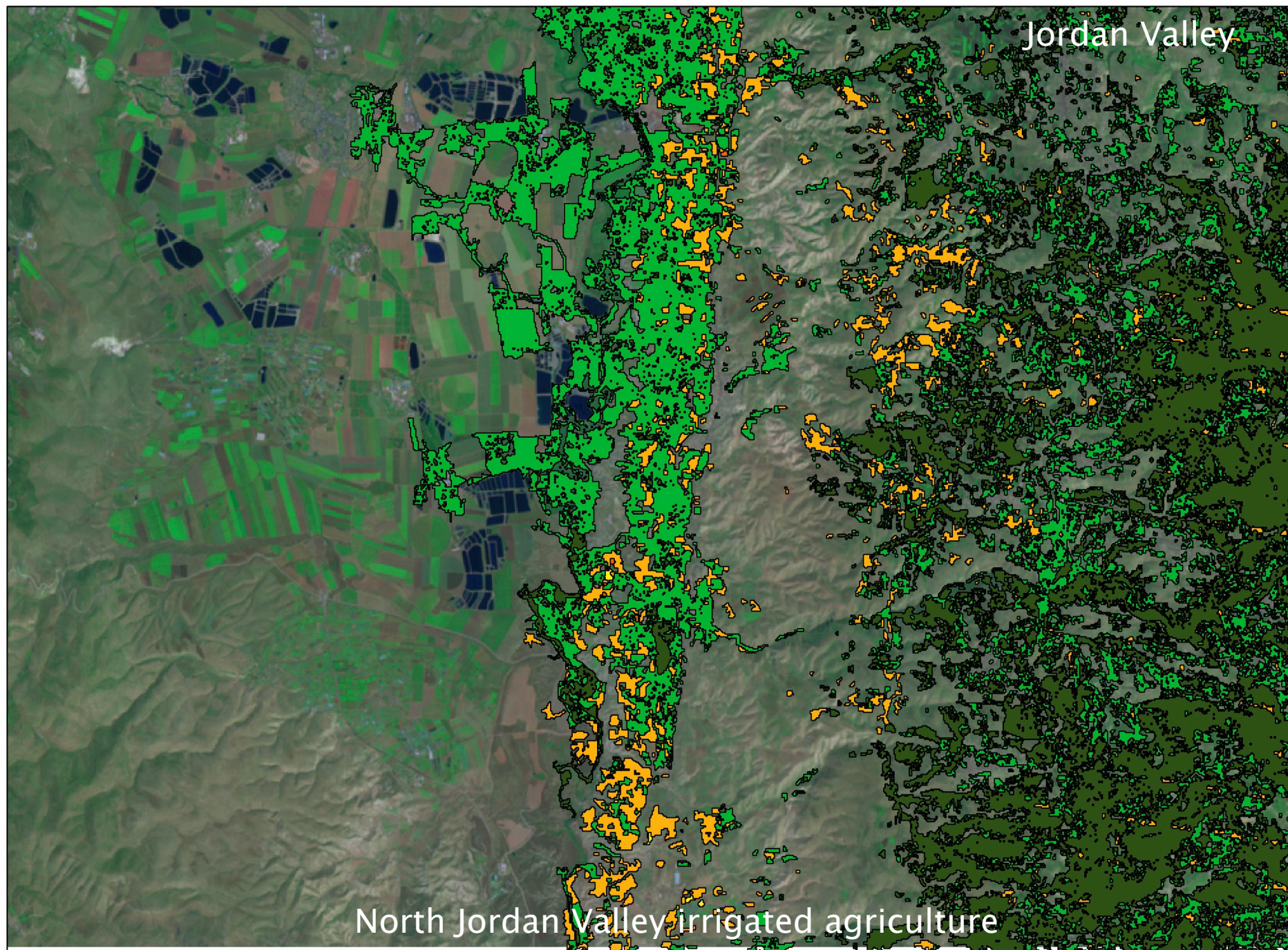
crop type map



Jordan Valley

North Jordan Valley irrigated agriculture





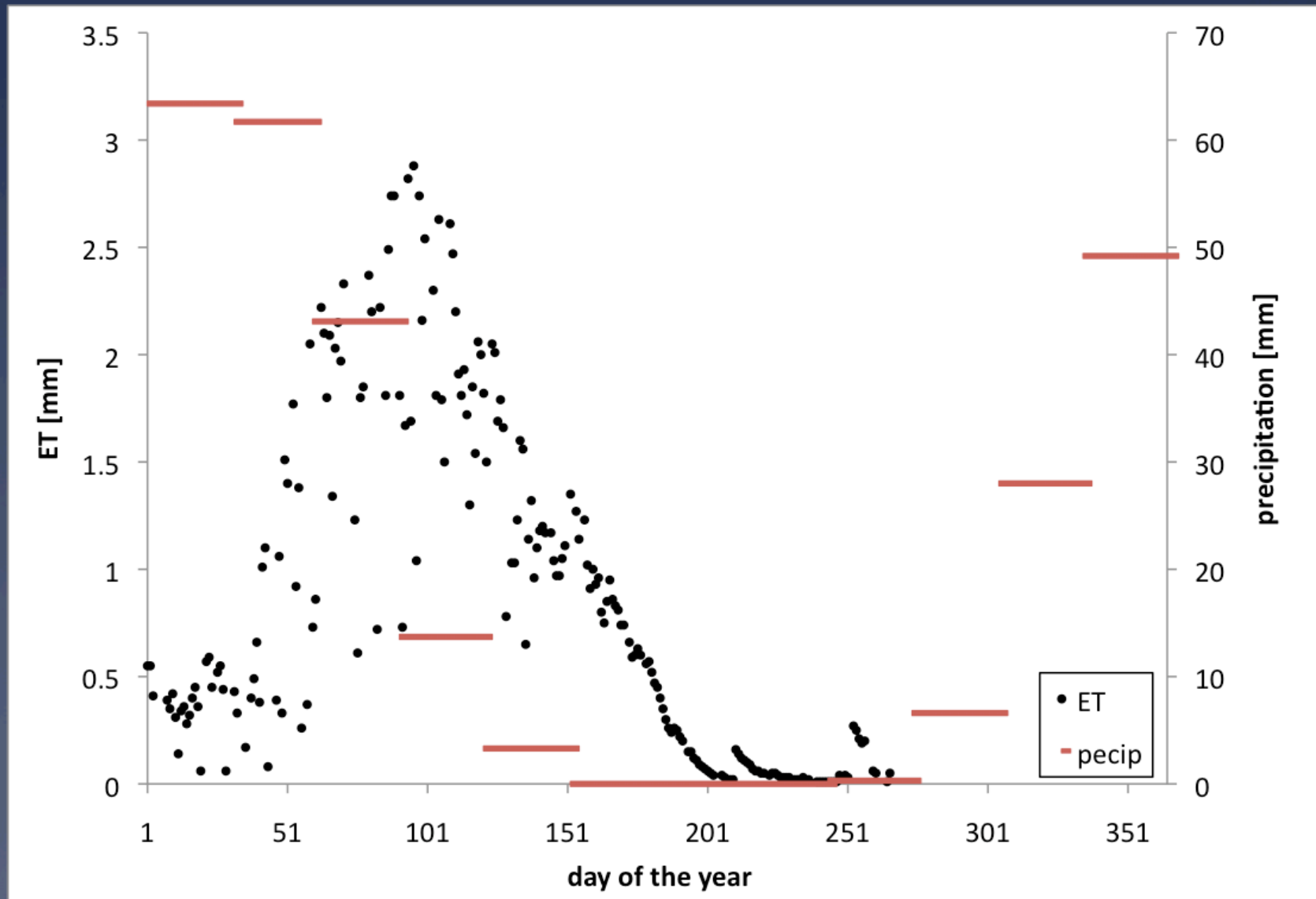
Jordan Valley

North Jordan Valley irrigated agriculture

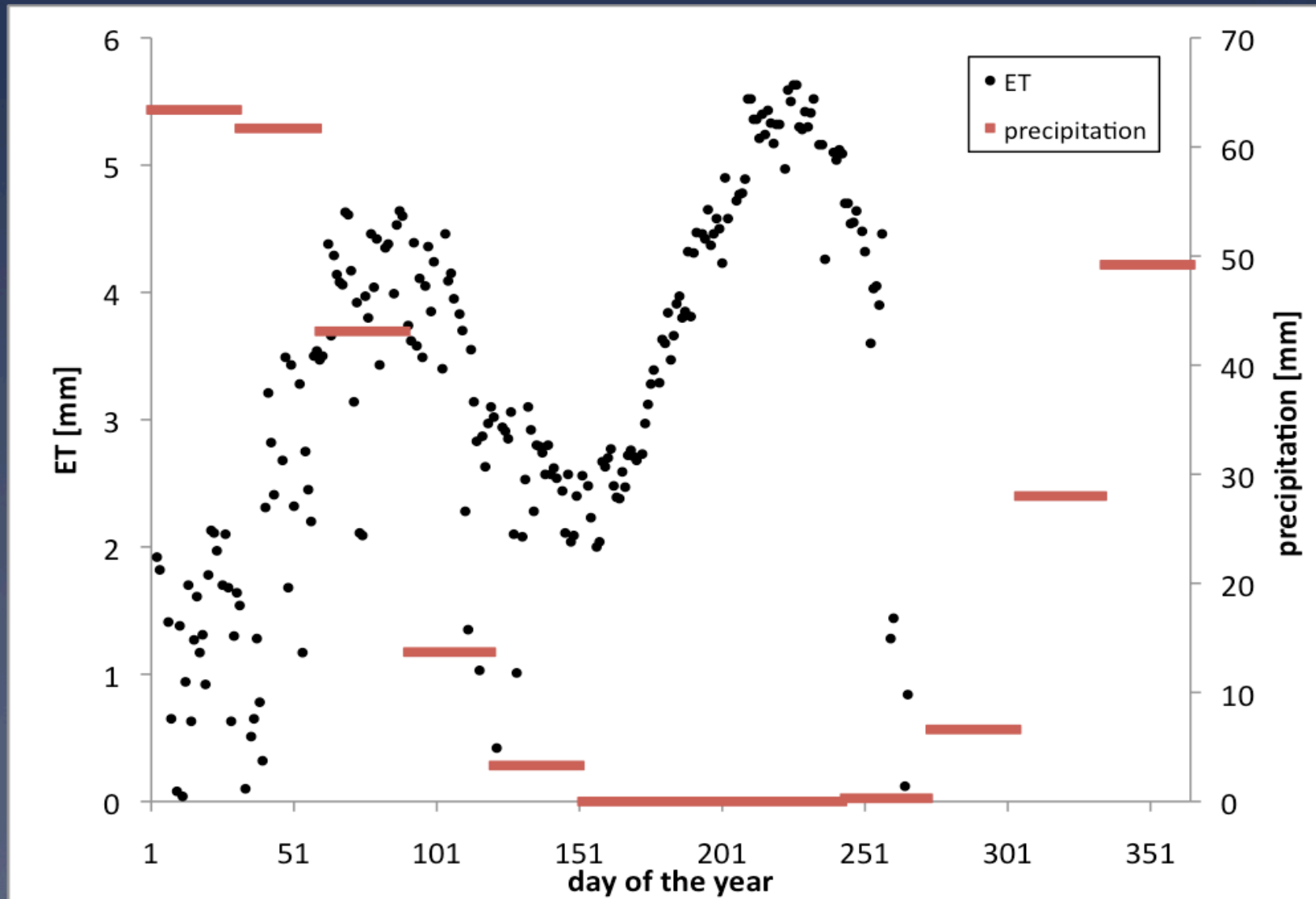
An aerial photograph showing a patchwork of agricultural fields in various shades of red, orange, and yellow, indicating different crops or stages of growth. The fields are arranged in a grid-like pattern, separated by narrow roads or irrigation channels.

What about water use?

Non-crop water use



Irrigated water use





Summary

- Regional scale irrigation mapping completed and being used for hydrological modeling
- Local scale mapping is in progress but this will require local inputs from the users
- Crop type mapping is country specific – two crops are doable, more crops are work in progress
- Having a crop type map allows crop-specific water loss assessment which is a key input for agricultural water management